

ON SOME BRACONIDÆ FROM THE HIMALAYA.

BY P. CAMERON.

I AM indebted to Col. C. T. Bingham for the under-noted species :—

XIPHOZELE, gen. nov.

First abscissa of cubitus long, angled below the middle, its basal abscissa obliquely sloped to below the middle, where it receives the recurrent nervure, the apex obliquely sloped upwards; the first cubital cellule is very large, much longer along the costa than it is wide at the base; the second cellule long, especially along the cubitus; transverse median nervure interstitial, much thinner than the others, angled outwardly above the middle. First abscissa of radius long, as long as the first transverse cubital nervure, about one-fourth shorter than the second; it is thicker than the second, the latter thicker than the third, which is roundly curved forwards at the base. Stigma long, lanceolate; the radius issues from behind its middle, but not much. Anal nervure not interstitial. Radial cellule in hind wings divided at the apical third; from the præbrachial a longish nervure runs obliquely downwards from beyond its middle to the probrachial, which it does not quite reach. Clypeus roundly convex, clearly separated behind; its apex transverse, clearly separated, obliquely projecting. Eyes large; malar space small, but distinct. Ocelli large, the anterior smaller than the others. Temples distinct, rounded, oblique. Mesonotum trilobate. Abdomen strongly compressed, beyond the middle as in *Ophion*; the first segment cylindrical, narrowed at the base to the spiracles, which are prominent, and placed shortly but distinctly behind the middle. Legs long, slender; the spurs more than half the length of the metatarsus; claws broadly dilated at the base, narrowed and curved at the apex; hind coxæ long.

An easily recognized genus from the very large first cubital cellule, caused by the obliquely sloped basal abscissa of the cubitus, and by its being so distinctly angled shortly beyond the middle. As a consequence of this slope, the prædiscoïdal cellule is narrowed at the apex, it being there half the width it is at the base. Characteristic, too, is the narrowed, angled, transverse median nervure, which does not reach the præbrachial, but is united to a short thickened nervure, which is more developed beyond than behind it; a similar but shorter thickened nervure or cloud runs into the anal nervure. Palpi long, pilose. Metanotum transversely striated, without any longitudinal keels; the pleuræ project beyond it; spiracles linear. Occiput margined.

This genus belongs to the Zelini, and from its divided radial cellule comes near to *Homolobus*, Foerster; from *Zele*, as well as from the other genera, it should be easily known by the large first cubital cellule, the angled basal abscissa of radius, the peculiar transverse median nervure, narrowed at apex of first dis-

coidal cellule, by the transverse præbrachial nervure sloping towards the apex, not towards the base of the wing, and by the compressed abdomen.

Xiphozele compressiventris, sp. nov.

Testaceous; the fifth and following segments of the abdomen black; the legs paler, especially the hind tarsi; wings clear hyaline, the parastigma and stigma testaceous, the costa and nervures black. ♀. Length, 21 mm.

Sikkim.

Mesopleuræ closely, distinctly punctured, more or less reticulated in the middle, almost smooth at the apex above. Metanotum strongly, but not closely, transversely striated; the metapleuræ at the apex widely irregularly reticulated. Abdomen about three times longer than the thorax.

From the coloration of this species, and from its large eyes and ocelli, I should think that it is of nocturnal habits like *Ophion* and *Paniscus*, to which it has a great resemblance.

Batotheca leucomelæna, West.

Spinaria leucomelæna, Westwood, Tijds. voor Ent. 1882, 31, tab. 7, f. 2.

Sikkim.

Described from Cambodia, Siam.

Spinaria flavipennis, sp. nov.

Luteous; the flagellum of antennæ black, the sides of the basal three abdominal segments, the ventral surface, and the apical segment white; wings luteous-hyaline, a triangular, oblique cloud at the base of the stigma and a broad one round the apex, except in the radial cellule; the costa, stigma, and nervures bright luteous. ♀. Length, 12 mm.

Sikkim.

Abdomen strongly, closely, longitudinally striated throughout, the striæ becoming weaker towards the apex; the apex of the third segment with a blunt, short triangular tooth in the middle, its sides and the sides of the fourth with a longish spine, broad at the base, becoming gradually narrowed towards the apex; the fourth stoutly keeled down the middle, the keel stronger at the apex, projecting and running down the apical slope of the segment; its base behind the furrow is smooth, impunctate; the furrow before this smooth part is closely crenulated; the last segment becomes gradually roundly curved to a sharp point, or longish tooth. The basal three abdominal segments are as long as the head and thorax united. Metanotum keeled down the middle, the base bordered by a curved irregular keel, forming a large basal areæ; the rest irregularly reticulated, the basal reticulations more irregular and larger than the apical; there is a stout, irregular, curved keel outside and inside the spiracles. Propleuræ with two curved keels, united below and with a longish keel behind them, in the centre. Mesopleural furrow wide, shallow, irregularly

striated. Pronotal spine long, sharp-pointed, roundly curved towards the head. The spines on the sides of metanotum stout, oblique, short, rounded and narrowed at the apex.

Spinaria bhutanensis, sp. nov.

Length, 12 mm. ♀.

Buxa, Bhotan (Dudgeon).

The resemblance of this species to *S. flavipennis* in form and coloration is very great; the two may be separated thus:—

The radial, the second and third cubital cellules, and the lower part from the recurrent nervure smoky, the basal cloud reaching to the apex of the basal abscissa of cubitus; the depressed lower part of mesopleuræ wide at the base, gradually narrowed towards the apex, closely reticulated-striated *bhutanensis*.

The radial, second cubital and base of third, and the base of discoidal cellules unclouded; the depressed lower part of mesopleuræ not much narrowed at the apex, irregularly striated and punctured *flavipennis*.

The hind wings are clouded from near the middle; the cloud in the first cubital cellule is along the cubitus, extends to the apical fourth, becomes gradually narrowed to a fine point, and extends slightly into the discoidal cellule. The pronotal spine is long, curved; the top of the part in front of it is depressed, narrowed obliquely towards the spine, the base rounded laterally, the middle with a slight incision. Centre and base of metanotum irregularly, widely reticulated; the central keel larger than the others; the apex with three areas, of which the central is not so wide, and has a keel down its middle; the lateral spines stout, oblique, wide at the base, narrowed and rounded at the apex. All the abdominal segments are stoutly, closely, longitudinally striated; the ventral surface, the sides of the basal two, and the apical segments are white; the latter is narrowed gradually to a long spine. Before the middle of the propleuræ are two stout, roundly curved keels, close to each other, and with a short oblique one in front. The keels bordering the scutellums are stout. Last joint of hind tarsi black, as in *flavipennis*.

If it were not for the marked difference in the clouding of the wings, I should have felt inclined to regard this species as a form of *flavipennis*.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.

NOTES ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *PYRAMEIS CARDUI* IN THE EARLY SUMMER OF 1906.—With reference to Mr. Adkin's interesting article on the abundance of *Pyrameis cardui* in June of this year (*ante*, p. 173), I think perhaps some observations I made on the occurrence of this insect in the early part of the summer, or perhaps, to be more correct, in the late spring, may be of further interest to your readers. All during May I paid frequent visits to the coast between Eastbourne and